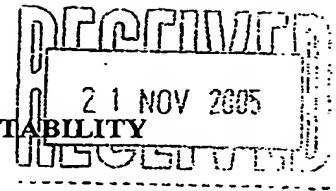


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference 04P110:RC:JM	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001753	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 13 December 2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 12 December 2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ B65D 17/34, 51/18		
Applicant GARDINER, James Lee		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of **3** sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. ☒ (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of **14** sheets, as follows:

☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. ☐ (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11 July 2005	Date of completion of the report 16 November 2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer ADRIANO GIACOBETTI Telephone No. (02) 6283 2579

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001753

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1 (b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1 as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* 2-11 received by this Authority on 11 July 2005 with the letter of 11 July 2005
 - pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the claims:
- pages as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 - pages* 12-15 received by this Authority on 11 July 2005 with the letter of 11 July 2005
 - pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages 1/16-16/16 as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
 - pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-26	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-26	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-26	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)Cited Prior Art Documents

D1: GB 2331284 A (BAKER) 19 May 1999
D2: US 4681238 A (SANCHEZ) 21 July 1987
D3: FR 2799442 A1 (BENAROUCH MARCEL) 13 April 2001
D4: US 5358136 A (RUBENDALL) 25 October 1994
D5: US 2003/0000952 A1 (DYREN) 2 January 2003
D6: DE 9005150 U1 (WILDHIRT) 30 August 1990

NOVELTY(N) AND INVENTIVE STEP(IS): Claims 1-26 (YES)

The invention relates to a cap to close an open end of a hollow body of a beverage container. The cap has a main portion and a severable portion to create a dispensing aperture. The cap also has a closure member with a handle which is positioned within the container. After the portion is severed the handle extends through the dispensing aperture to enable the closure member to be moved between closed and open positions.

None of the above documents, taken singly or in obvious combination, disclose all the features of invention as now defined in independent claims 1 and 2. In particular none of the documents disclose a cap wherein the severed portion is moved inwardly into the container and that the closure member is contacted by the severed portion while moving into the container to thereby cause the closure member to move to a position where the handle of the closure member extends through the dispensing aperture.

Therefore the invention of claims 1 and 2, as well as appended claims 3 to 26; is considered to be novel and involve an inventive step over the above documents.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY(IA): Claims 1-26 (YES)

The invention as defined in claims 1 to 26 meets the requirement of industrial applicability because the cap can be made or used in industry.

extend over said other end when fixed to said other end, the panel member having a main portion and a partially or fully severable portion arranged for a user of the container to apply a pressure on said severable portion for severing same and thereby forming a dispensing aperture in a zone defined by the severed portion. The applied further causes the severed portion to move into the container. The cap also has a closure member arranged, when fixed to said other end, to be within the container and the closure member is movable relative to the panel member between a closed position for closing passage of beverage through said dispensing aperture and an open position for dispensing the beverage through the dispensing aperture. The closure member has a handle and is arranged to engage the severed portion while moving into the container to thereby to be caused to move to a position where the handle extends through the dispensing aperture following forming thereof. The handle is configured for the user to manually move the closure member in a first direction towards the closed position and in a second direction towards the open position to reveal the passage for dispensing the beverage therein.

In another aspect therefor the present invention resides in a beverage container comprising a hollow body member with opposed ends, a bottom member at one end thereof and a cap at the other end thereof. The cap comprises a panel member fixed to the body member at said other end and configured to extend over said other end. The panel member has a main portion and a partially or fully severable portion arranged for a user of the container to apply a pressure on said severable portion for severing same and thereby forming a dispensing aperture in a zone defined by the severed portion. The applied further causes the severed portion to move into the container. The cap also has a closure member arranged within the container and the closure member is movable relative to the panel member between a closed position for closing passage of beverage through said dispensing aperture and an open position for dispensing the beverage through the dispensing aperture. The closure member has a handle and is arranged to engage the severed portion while moving into the container to thereby to be caused to move to a position where the handle extends through the dispensing aperture following forming thereof. The handle is configured for the user to manually move the closure member in a first direction towards the closed position and in a second direction towards the open position to reveal the passage for dispensing the beverage therein.

In preference, the cap has an opener arranged for the user to manually move the opener to apply said pressure on the severable portion.

The panel member may be fixed to the body member at said other end by a seaming process.

5 The panel member may have a weakened section from which a perimeter of the severable portion can be severed from the main portion by applying pressure to the severable portion. The weakened section may extend fully or partly around the severable portion. Where the weakened section extends fully around the severable portion, the severed portion can be separated from main portion.

10 The weakened section extending partly around the severable portion may be arranged so that the severed portion is pressed to move towards one side of the dispensing aperture.

Preferable, the weakened section is formed by a score line along said perimeter.

The opener may be in the form of a pull tab pivotally mounted to the main
15 portion. Preferably, the tab has an inner end lying over the severable portion and an outer end. In use, the outer end is pulled upwards to pivot the inner end downward to apply pressure to the severable portion for severing same. It is further preferred that the main portion has a top surface and a first rivet with an upper end extending from its top surface, and the pull tab is pivotally mounted on the rivet and arranged above the top
20 surface.

The panel member may have an under surface and the closure member is arranged on or beneath the under surface.

The closure member may be arranged to be rotatably movable relative to the panel member. In preference, the closure member is in the form of a disk rotatably mounted on
25 a second rivet fixed to the main portion or on a post extending from the first rivet. The post for the can be bonded to the under surface of the panel member.

The first rivet may have a hollow section and the post is preferably fixed in the hollow section. The upper end of the first rivet is preferably wedge shaped in order to positive retain the opener when the opener is moved to sever the severable portion.
30 Preferably, the post has an outer end within said upper end of the first rivet and the outer end is shaped to be retained by said upper end. More preferably, the outer end is formed

in a compatible wedge shape. The post may have an inner end opposite to said outer end and the inner end is preferably an enlarged head to positively retain the closure member.

Alternatively, the closure member is in the form of a disk having its peripheral edge retained in a retention groove formed in the body member or panel member. The disk may have a bent or curved peripheral edge and the groove is shaped to accommodate the peripheral edge. In preference, the retention groove is formed as a recessed section in the main portion of the panel member and the recessed section is arranged to receive the peripheral edge of the disk so that the disk is rotatably supported therein. In another form, the cap member may have the retention groove formed in the countersink and the disk is configured to be rotatably supported in the groove.

The disk may be circular in shaped and may have a through hole section and the disk is arranged so that at the open position the through hole section is in line with the dispensing aperture.

The closure member can have printed matter thereon for promotional purposes such as awarding a prize, so that when it is pivoted across the dispensing aperture to close the aperture to prevent foreign objects such as wasps and flies entering the container the promotional matter can be clearly seen.

Typically, the closure member is arranged to seal said dispensing aperture when it is in the closed position. In one form, a sealing member is applied to the closure member or to the main portion surrounding the dispensing aperture to substantially seal the aperture when the closure is in the closed position in order to assist in retaining the carbonation of the beverage in the can.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In order that the invention can be clearly understood and put into practical effect the invention will now be described in reference to the accompanying drawings which illustrate non-limiting embodiments of the present invention, and wherein:-

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a beverage container according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view of the container shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged partial cross sectional view of the container shown in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is an enlarged partial cross sectional view of the cap member shown in Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the beverage container shown in Figure 1 after the container has been opened and the closure member is in a closed position;

5 Figure 6 show the beverage container of Figure 5 with the closure member in the open position;

Figure 7A is an enlarged view of the underside of the cap member before the container is opened;

10 Figure 7B is an enlarged view of the underside of the cap member after the container is opened and the door in a closed position;

Figure 8A shows another form of the closure member for the container shown in Figure 7A;

Figure 8B shows the container of Figure 8A with closure member in the closed position;

15 Figure 9A is a further form of the closure member for the container shown in Figure 7A with the closure member in the open position;

Figure 9B shows the container of Figure 9A with the closure member in the closed position;

20 Figure 10 is an enlarged partial cross sectional view of the cap member shown in Figure 9A;

Figure 11 is an enlarged cross sectional view of yet another further form of the closure member and panel member for the container shown in Figure 1;

Figure 12 is an enlarged cross sectional view of a different form of the closure member and panel member shown in Figure 11;

25 Figure 13 is an enlarged partial cross sectional view of the container shown in Figure 11 after fixing to the body member;

Figure 14 is an enlarged partial cross sectional view of the tubular body member, an enlarged cross sectional view of the closure member and panel member before the panel member is sealed to the tubular body member;

30 Figure 15 is an enlarged partial cross sectional view of the closure member shown in Figure 14;

Figures 16 and 17 are respective enlarged partial views of the embodiments of the closure members and the panel members shown in Figures 11 and 12;

Figure 18 is a plan view of one form of the closure member;

Figure 19 is an under view of an embodiment of the cap member having the closure member shown in Figure 18;

Figure 20 is a plan view of another form of the closure member;

Figure 21 is an under view of an embodiment of the cap member having the closure member shown in Figure 20;

Figure 22 is a plan view of a further form of the closure member for a cap member with a folded in severable portion;

Figure 23 is a plan view of a further form of the cap member; and

Figures 24 to 25 show certain positions of the closure member shown in Figure 22 fitted to the cap member shown in Figure 23.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring initially to Figures 1 to 7 there is shown a beverage container 10 which in this case is in the form of an aluminium alloy beverage can for a beverage such as any one of beer, carbonated drink, fruit juice and the like. It should be noted that the container 10 can also be made of steel or plastic or any material that can be formed into a can.

The can 10 has a tubular body member 12 with a top open end and a bottom end. As can be seen in Figure 2 a base 14 is integrally formed at the bottom end to close this end, and a cap 16 is sealingly fixed to the periphery at the top open end by seaming in this case. A rim 18 is formed at the seam and a countersink 32 is formed radially inwardly of the rim 18.

The can 10 as shown is an easy open type. The cap or panel member 16 has a severable portion 20 with its severable perimeter defined by a score line 22. A ring pull tab 24 fixed to the panel member 16 by a rivet 26. The tab 24 has an outer end configured for lifting or pulling with a user's finger and an inner end extending over the severable portion 20. The tab 24 when pulled moves pivotally so that its inner end presses against the portion 20 to partially sever the portion 20 along the score line 22. The partially severed portion 20 remains connected with the main portion of the panel member 16 at a position shown as 71. Further pulling of the tab 24 would bend the severed portion 20

into the can 10 about the position 71. Thereby, a dispensing or pour aperture 38 is presented for dispensing the beverage in the can 10.

Figures 2 and 3 show that the panel member 16 has a post 41 fixed in the hollow section of the underside of the rivet 26. A closure member 67 in the form of a disk is rotatably mounted to the post 41. The disk 67 has a handle 49 accessible through the aperture 38, thereby allowing the disk 67 to be rotated by using the handle 49.

Figure 4 shows the post 41 has a head 90 and a recessed section 91 to which the disk 67 is rotatably mounted. The recessed section 91 and the head 90 prevent separation of the disk 67 from the post. The rivet 26 is hollow and its top end is in the form of a cam or wedge shaped section 37. The interior of the section 37 is also wedge shaped. The inner end 29 of the post 41 is within the wedge shaped interior and this end is flared to assist retaining the post 41 in the rivet 26.

Figure 6 shows that the handle 49 is above the top surface of the cap 16 when the severable portion 20 is pressed to the position as shown in this Figure. The handle 49 is positioned that it has minimal interference with the severing action and the disk 67 is made of a resilient material so that the handle 49 would extend through the aperture 38 when the severed portion 20 moves past the handle 49. The user can push the handle 49 to move the disk 67 to the closed position as shown in Figure 5. Figure 5 shows the disk 67 is in the closed position after the panel member 16 has been opened by severing the portion 20. The disk 67 has the word WIN 87 printed as one example for the promotional use of the product.

Figure 7A shows the underside view of the panel member 16 where the disk 67 is in a the open position and the severable portion 20 is intact with the panel member 16. When the portion 20 is severed and pressed into the can 10, the handle 49 will be exposed through the so formed aperture 38 as shown in Figure 7B. Returning to Figure 6, the can 10 as shown is opened by severing the portion 20 which is folded down and remained attached to the panel member 16 in the position marked as 71. The handle 49 is exposed through the aperture 38.

Figure 8A and 8B shows another form of the closure member or disk 67. As shown in Figure 8A, the disk 67 is circular in shape and has an outer peripheral edge 105 and a hole 52 in the disk 67 is partially covering the underside of the severable portion

20 before opening the can 10. When opening, the severable portion 20 passes through the hole 52 and the portion 20 contacts a downward curved section 172 and pivots the disk 67 to allow the handle 49 to be exposed through the dispensing aperture 38. Figure 8B shows the disk 67 is a closed position covering the aperture 38. Figure 13 shows that the
5 tab 24 being lifted to sever the severable portion 20. The severed portion 20 is then folded down about the position 71. The disk 67 has a curved projection 172 positioned so that the severed portion 20 is in contact with the curved projection 172 when it is being folded. The severed portion 20 thus causes the disk 67 to rotate while it is being folded. The disk 67 is configured so that when the severed portion 20 rotates the disk 67
10 through a certain degrees to an open position the handle 49 is in line with the dispensing aperture 38 and due to resiliency of the disk 67 would then projects above the top surface of the panel member 16.

Figures 9A to 10 shows a further form of the invention. In Figure 9A, there is shown that the panel member 16 has a score line 93 to allow the tab 24 and severable
15 portion 20 to be totally removed from the panel member 16 when opened. An indent or stop 152 is formed in the panel member 16 to prevent the disk 67 from moving to an inaccessible position. Figure 10 shows another rivet 132 formed with the wedge section 58 in the panel member 16 to which the post 41 is applied. In another form the post 41 is bonded to the underside of the panel member 16. Figure 9B shows the panel member
20 16 after it has been opened and the disk 67 has been pivoted to close the aperture 38.

Figures 11 to 12 shows another embodiment of the invention. As shown in Figure 11, the panel member 16 has a groove 34 formed in the inner wall of a countersink to receive a curved section 54 on the disk 67. The curved section 54 is configured so that it is supported in and can rotate in the groove 34 to thereby allow the user to move the
25 disk 67 to the closing and opening positions. Figure 12 shows the panel member 16 having a groove 47 formed on the outer wall of the countersink to receive the curved section 97 of the disk 67. The curved section 97 can rotate in the groove 47 to allow the disk 67 to be positioned for closing and opening of aperture 38. Details of the groove 34, 47 and the curved section 54, 97 are clearly shown in the enlarged views in Figures 16 and 17 respectively.
30

Figure 14 shows another embodiment of the invention where the disk 67 is fixed

between the tubular member 12 and the cap member 16. The disk 67 has an outer peripheral portion 95 to be fixed between the tubular body member 12 and cap member 16. The tubular member 12 has a turned edge 95 at said other end and the panel member 16 has a curved edge 102 configured for wrapping around the turned edge 42 and fixed thereto by a seaming process. As such, the outer edge 95 of the disk 67 is retained between the curved edge 102 and the turned edge 42, and the disk 67 is free to rotate. Figure 15 shows the disk 67 having grooved section 5 to receive the curved section 7 on the outer peripheral portion 95 allowing the disk 67 to rotate.

Referring to Figure 18, there is shown a closure member 67 in the form of a disk with a semi-circular shaped through hole 52 and a curved peripheral edge 54. A handle 49 is provided adjacent to the through hole 52 at a position which is slightly off centre. Figure 19 shows an embodiment of the cap member having the panel member 16 fitted with the disk 67 shown in Figure 18. The curve edge 54 of the disk 67 is retained in the groove 34 which is configured to allow edge 54 of the disk to be movable while being retained therein. The groove 34 is in the inner wall of the countersink 32. A strip of sealing member 178 is applied around the score line 22. Using the handle 49, the user can turn the disk 67 between the closed position and the open position. In the closed position, the sealing member 178 engages the solid section of the disk 67 and thereby seals the gap between the disk 67 and the panel member 16 adjacent to the dispensing aperture 38. As such, the flow passage through the aperture 38 is closed.

In Figure 20, the disk 67 has a strip of sealing member 178 on the solid section thereof. The strip of the sealing member is shaped and positioned to surround the dispensing aperture 38 when the disk 67 is placed in the closed position. Figure 21 shows the disk 67 in the open position to allow the severable portion 20 to be severed so that beverage can flow through the aperture 38 formed following severing of the portion 20. To close the dispensing aperture 38, a user simply engages the handle 49 which is now projecting through the aperture 38 and above the top surface of the panel member 16, with a finger or fingers and turns the disk 67 in a counter clockwise direction to the closed position. In this position, the through hole 52 is no longer in line with the aperture 38. Instead, the sealing member 178 is in position to surround the aperture 38 and thereby sealing the gap between the disk 67 and the panel member 16 adjacent to the dispensing

aperture 38. Accordingly, the flow passage through the aperture 38 is closed.

Figure 22 shows a closure member 67 in the form of a disk with a substantially semi-circle shaped through hole 52. The disk 67 has a curved peripheral edge 54 arranged for retention in the groove 34 in the panel member 16, tubular member 12 or between the curved edge 102 and the turned edge 42 as hereinbefore described. A contoured portion 55 is provided along the inner edge of the through hole 52. The contoured portion 55 is shaped to substantially match that along the inner edge of the score line 22. A strip of sealing member 178 is applied to the disk's top surface. The sealing strip 178 is shaped to encircle a score line 22 on a top panel member 16 (see Figure 23). The sealing strip 178 has an enlarged sealing part 147. The disk 67 also has a handle 49 extending outwardly and an engagement projection 114 directed into the through hole 52. Referring to Figure 23, the panel member 16 has a countersink 32 arranged with a groove 34 (see Figures 16 and 17) for retaining the peripheral edge 54 of the disk 67. The panel member 16 also has a score line 22 defining a severable portion 20 which is to be severed therefrom to form a dispensing aperture 38 (see Figure 25). The score line 22 terminates at a position 71 so that when a severable portion 20 is severed along the score line 22 the severed portion remains connected to the panel member 16. A sealing pad 142 is applied at a termination point of the score line 22. The pad 142 is arranged for sealing a gap between the folded down portion 22 and the panel member 16 as shown in Figures 24A and 25. The panel member 16 has a rivet 26 for rotatably supporting a lift opener 24 as

as described. In Figure 24, the disk 67 shown in Figure 22 is fitted to the panel member 16 shown in Figure 23. As shown, the severable portion 20 is yet to be severed and the disk 67 is positioned so that its engagement projection 114 is under the portion 20 and the through hole 52 is in place to allow the portion 20 when severed to be folded downwardly into the container 10. As shown in Figure 24A, the portion 20 is severed along the score line 22 as the severed portion 20 is being folded downwardly it engages the projection 114 and causing the disk 67 to rotate in an anticlockwise direction. The handle 49 extends through the now formed dispensing aperture 38. The sealing pad 142 seals a small gap behind the folded portion 20.

When the user desires to close the aperture 38, the handle 49 is moved from one

side of the aperture 38 to the opposite side. In doing so, the disk 67 rotates to the position where the sealing strip 178 is in line with the aperture 38 and seals the gap between the panel member 16 and the disk 67. The disk 67, if made of a resilient material, would apply pressure to positively seal the gap. To open the aperture 38 for dispensing beverage,
5 the handle 49 is moved to said one side of the aperture 38 to move the disk 67 so that the through hole 52 is in line with the aperture 38 to thereby allowing a passage through the aperture 38.

Whilst the above has been given by way of illustrative example of the present invention many variations and modifications thereto will be apparent to those skilled in
10 the art without departing from the broad ambit and scope of the invention as herein set forth in the following claims.

CLAIMS

1. A cap for a beverage container having a hollow body member with opposed ends, a bottom member at one end thereof and the cap is for fixing to the other end thereof, the cap comprising a panel member arranged for fixing to the body member at said other end and configured to extend over said other end when fixed to said other end, the panel member having a main portion and a partially or fully severable portion arranged for a user of the container to apply a pressure on said severable portion for severing same and thereby forming a dispensing aperture in a zone defined by the severed portion, the applied pressure further causing the severed portion to move into the container, and a closure member arranged, when the panel member is fixed to said other end, to be within the container and the closure member is movable relative to the panel member between a closed position for closing a beverage passage through said dispensing aperture and an open position for dispensing the beverage through the dispensing aperture, the closure member having a handle and being arranged to engage the severed portion while moving into the container to thereby be caused to move to a position where the handle extends through the dispensing aperture following forming thereof, the handle being configured for the user to manually move the closure member in a first direction towards the closed position and in a second direction towards the open position to reveal the passage for dispensing the beverage therein.
2. A beverage container comprising a hollow body member with opposed ends, a bottom member at one end thereof and a cap at the other end thereof, the cap having a panel member fixed to the body member at said other end and configured to extend over said other end, the panel member having a main portion and a partially or fully severable portion arranged for a user of the container to apply a pressure on said severable portion for severing same and thereby forming a dispensing aperture in a zone defined by the severed portion, the applied pressure further causing the severed portion to move into the container, the cap having a closure member arranged within the container and the closure member is movable relative to the panel member between a closed position for closing a beverage passage through said dispensing aperture and an open position for dispensing the beverage through the dispensing aperture, the closure member having a handle and being arranged to engage the severed portion while moving into the container to thereby

be caused to move to a position where the handle extends through the dispensing aperture following forming thereof, the handle being configured for the user to manually move the closure member in a first direction towards the closed position and in a second direction towards the open position to reveal the passage for dispensing the beverage therein.

- 5 3. The invention according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the panel member being fixed to the body member at said other end by a seaming process.
4. The invention according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the panel member having a weakened section from which a perimeter of the severable portion can be severed from the main portion by applying pressure to the severable portion.
- 10 5. The invention according to claim 4 wherein the weakened section is configured to extend fully or partly around the severable portion.
6. The invention according to claim 5 wherein the weakened section extends fully around the severable portion, and the severed portion can thus be separated from main portion.
- 15 7. The invention according to claim 5 wherein the weakened section is configured to extend partly around the severable portion so that the severed portion remains connected to the main portion and is pressed to move towards one side of the dispensing aperture.
8. The invention according to any one of claims 4 to 7 wherein the weakened
- 20 section is formed by a score line along said perimeter.
9. The invention according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the cap having an opener arranged for the user to manually move the opener to apply said pressure on the severable portion.
10. The invention according to claim 9 wherein the opener is in the form of a pull tab
- 25 pivotally mounted to the main portion, and having an inner end lying over the severable portion and an outer end, the outer end being movable upwardly to pivot the inner end to move downwardly to apply pressure to the severable portion for severing same.
11. The invention according to claim 10 wherein the main portion having a top surface and a first rivet with an upper end extending from its top surface, and the pull tab
- 30 is pivotally mounted on the first rivet and arranged above the top surface.
12. The invention according to any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the panel member

having an under surface and the closure member is arranged on or beneath the under surface.

13. The invention according to claim 12 wherein the closure member being arranged to be rotatably movable relative to the panel member.

5 14. The invention according to claim 13 wherein the closure member is in the form of a disk rotatably mounted on a rivet fixed to the main portion or on a post extending from the rivet, or according to any one of claims 11 to 13 wherein the closure member is in the form of a disk rotatably mounted on the first rivet or a post extending from the rivet.

10 15. The invention according to claim 14 wherein the rivet or first rivet having a hollow section and the post is fixed in the hollow section.

16. The invention according to claim 15 wherein the rivet or first rivet having a wedge shaped upper end configured to retain an opener pivotally mounted thereto and movable to apply pressure to sever the severable portion, and the post having an outer end within said upper end of the rivet or first rivet and the outer end is shaped to be retained by said upper end.

17. The invention according to claim 16 wherein the post having an inner end opposite to said outer end and the inner end is an enlarged head arranged to positively retain the closure member.

20 18. The invention according to claim 13 wherein the closure member is in the form of a disk having its peripheral edge retained in a retention groove formed in the body member or panel member.

19. The invention according to claim 18 wherein the disk having a bent or curved peripheral edge and the groove is shaped to accommodate the peripheral edge.

25 20. The invention according to claim 19 wherein the retention groove is formed as a recessed section in the main portion of the panel member and the recessed section is arranged to receive the peripheral edge of the disk so that the disk is rotatably supported therein.

30 21. The invention according to claim 19 wherein the cap member having a countersink radially inwardly of a rim formed on the body member, the retention groove being formed in the countersink and the disk is configured to be rotatably supported in

the groove.

22. The invention according to claim 13 where the disk has a closed section and a through hole section, and the disk is arranged so that in the open position the through hole section is in line with the dispensing aperture and at the closed position the closed section closing said beverage passage.

23. The invention according to claim 22 wherein the disk being circular in shape and having a through hole section, and the disk is arranged so that at the open position the through hole section is in line with the dispensing aperture.

24. The invention according to any one of claims 1 to 23 wherein a sealing member is applied to the closure member or to the main portion surrounding the dispensing aperture to substantially seal the aperture when the closure member is in the closed position.

25. The invention according to claim 24 wherein the severable portion is arranged to remain connected to the main portion when severed and is foldable in a downward direction, the main portion having a further sealing member applied to seal a gap between the main portion and the severed and folded portion.

26. The invention according to any one of claims 1 to 25 wherein the closure member having an engagement projection arranged to engage the severed portion of the panel member and an inward movement of the severed portion causes the closure member to move to a position where the handle extends through the dispensing aperture.